Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

1-6 (canceled)

7. (withdrawn) The method of claim 1 wherein the container has a discharge nipple extending therefrom, and wherein the exposing step comprises creating a raised protrusion on an exterior surface of the discharge nipple as a result of exposure to the laser generated radiation.

8. (withdrawn) The method of claim 7 wherein the exposing step comprises creating a plurality of raised protrusions on the exterior surface of the discharge nipple.

9. (withdrawn) The method of claim 7 wherein the creation of the indicia and the protrusion occur during a single pass of laser generated radiation across the container.

10. (withdrawn) The method of claim 7, and further comprising:
mounting a flexible tubular cap over the discharge nipple so that portions of the tubular cap stretch to fit over the discharge nipple and the raised protrusion, wherein the raised protrusion aids in retaining the tubular cap in place on the discharge nipple.

11. (withdrawn) The method of claim 1 wherein the indicia is raised relative to the exterior surface of the container sufficient to readily enable manual tactile detection thereof.

12. (canceled)

13. (withdrawn) A method of forming a capsule assembly which includes radiation-reactive dental restorative material comprises:

providing a container having an exterior surface and an interior chamber, the container formed from a laser-enhanced polymer and formed to inhibit the transmission of light radiation of selected wavelengths therethrough, and the container having a first open end and a second end with a discharge nipple thereon, with the discharge nipple having an orifice therethrough in communication with the interior chamber of the container;

exposing selected portions of the exterior surface of the discharge nipple to laser generated radiation at an energy level sufficient to create a raised protrusion on the discharge nipple;

inserting radiation-reactive dental restorative material into the interior chamber of the container through the first open end of the container;

sealing the first open end of the container; and

mounting a removable cap over the discharge nipple, the cap being flexible to cover and seal the orifice, and the cap engaging the protrusion on the discharge nipple to inhibit inadvertent separation of the cap from the discharge nipple.

14. (withdrawn) The method of claim 13 wherein the exposing step comprises creating a plurality of raised protrusions on the exterior surface of the discharge nipple.

15. (withdrawn) The method of claim 13, and further comprising:

exposing selected portions of the exterior surface of the container to laser generated radiation at an energy level sufficient to create indicia on the exterior surface, the indicia having a sufficient contrast relative to the exterior surface to enable readily visual human and/or optical machine-readable detection of the indicia.

16. (withdrawn) The method of claim 15 wherein the creation of the indicia and the creation of the protrusion occur during a single pass of laser generated radiation across the container.

17. (withdrawn) The method of claim 15, and further comprising:

producing a plurality of containers such as those defined in the providing step; and

exposing portions of the exterior surfaces of each of the containers in the plurality of containers to the laser generated radiation, during a single pass of laser generated radiation, to create the protrusion and indicia on each container.

18. (withdrawn) The method of claim 17, and further comprising:

creating different indicia on selected containers in the plurality of containers which are exposed to the laser generated radiation during the single pass of laser generated radiation.

19. (withdrawn) A method of assembling two component parts comprises:

providing a first component part which is elongated, has an orifice therethrough, has an exterior surface extending about the orifice, and is formed from a laser-enhanced polymer;

providing a second component part which is formed to resiliently extend over the elongated portion of the first component part bearing the orifice;

exposing the exterior surface of the first component part to laser generated radiation at an energy level sufficient to create a protrusion thereon; and

resiliently expanding the second component part over the exterior surface and protrusion on the first component part to cover and seal the orifice thereof, with the protrusion on the first component part engaging the second component part to inhibit inadvertent separation of the two component parts.

20. (canceled)

21. (Previously presented) A method of forming a capsule assembly for a dental material, comprising the steps of:

(a) providing a container having an exterior surface and an interior chamber, the container formed from a laser-enhanced polymer and adapted to inhibit the transmission of light radiation of selected wavelengths therethrough; and

(b) exposing selected portions of the exterior surface of the container to laser-generated radiation at an energy level sufficient to create indicia on the exterior surface, the indicia having a sufficient contrast relative to the exterior surface to enable visual human and/or optical machine-readable detection of the indicia.

22. (Previously presented) The method of claim 21, further including the step of inserting radiation-reactive dental restorative material into the interior chamber of the container.

23. (Previously presented) The method of claim 22, wherein the indicia identify characteristics of the dental material.

24. (Previously presented) The method of claim 22, wherein the laser-enhanced polymer forming the container is inert relative to the dental material.

25. (Previously presented) The method of claim 21, wherein the ability of the container to dispense dental material under pressure is not adversely affected by the exposure of the container to laser-generated radiation when creating the indicia on the exterior surface of the container.

26. (Previously presented) The method of claim 21 wherein the indicia include an optically machine-readable bar code.

27. (Previously presented) The method of claim 21 wherein the indicia include letters, numerals, symbols, optically machine-readable bar codes, or reverse images thereof.

28. (Previously presented) The method of claim 21 wherein step (b) comprises activating an Nd:YAG laser.

29. (Previously presented) The method of claim 21 wherein step (a) comprises providing a black container.

30. (Previously presented) The method of claim 21, wherein the selected wavelengths are from 370 nm to 530 nm.

31. (Previously presented) The method of claim 21 wherein the indicia contrast has a Brightness Scaled Contrast of at least 50.

32. (Previously presented) The method of claim 21, and further comprising:

providing a plurality of containers according to step (a); and

exposing portions of the exterior surfaces of each of the containers in the plurality of containers to the laser-generated radiation during a single pass to create the indicia on each container.

33. (Previously presented) The method of claim 32, wherein the method further comprises the step of providing different indicia on different ones of the containers in a single pass of the laser-generated radiation..

34. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 21, wherein the indicia is raised relative to the exterior surface of the container sufficient to readily enable manual tactile detection thereof.

35. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 21 wherein the container has a discharge nipple extending therefrom, and wherein the method further comprises creating a raised protrusion on an exterior surface of the discharge nipple as a result of exposure to laser-generated radiation.

36. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 35, wherein a plurality of raised protrusions are formed on the exterior surface of the discharge nipple.

37. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 35 wherein the creation of the indicia and the protrusion occur during a single pass of laser-generated radiation across the container.

38. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 35, and further comprising:

mounting a flexible cap over the discharge nipple so that portions of the cap stretch to fit over the discharge nipple and the raised protrusion.